

Amendments to the Specification:

Applicants hereby amend the specification in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121(b)(1).

The amendments to the specification are limited to the deletion of references to URLs/hyperlinks.

On page 3 of the June 6, 2008 Clean Copy of the Specification, please replace the paragraph on lines 21-31 with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 1 illustrates a prior art system according to the MSDN Library (under the topic: Windows Driver Stack for Windows XP and LATER http://msdn.microsoft.com/library/default.asp?url=/library/en-us/buses/hh/buses/usbsystem_60fb.asp). The device shown in Figure 1 is a single interface USB device that has either a mass storage interface (left part of Figure 1) or a smart card interface (right part of Figure 1). The driver loaded for the device is provided by Microsoft Windows OS. Only the functionality of one of the interfaces can be achieved at an instance, depending on whether it is a digital media reader or a smart card reader. This architecture is incapable of supporting a second device function (e.g. a smart card reader in addition to a digital media reader) as the device only has a single physical interface.

On page 4 of the June 6, 2008 Clean Copy of the Specification, please replace the paragraph on lines 1-17 with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 2 shows a further prior art system according to the MSDN Library (under the topic: Selecting the Configuration for a Multiple-Interface (Composite) USB Device, http://msdn.microsoft.com/library/default.asp?url=/library/en-us/buses/hh/buses/usb-config_6xev.asp). The device shown in Figure 2 is a composite device which has two interfaces defined in its configuration descriptor. One interface is confined to mass storage class and the other interface is confined to the class of smart cards. Both interfaces do physically exist in the device itself (although the device only comprises a single connector). Microsoft Windows OS provided drivers get loaded separately for each interface. The functionalities of both mass storage interface and smart card interface are available. This type of architecture has a limitation in that, for achieving the functionality and the intelligence of a multiple interface device, it is a must that the device itself contains multiple interfaces. Devices with a single physical interface cannot benefit from this architecture. Also, it requires both digital media and the smart card to be present in the reader for communicating with their respective interfaces. Further, this architecture cannot support a single digital medium with a smart card controller embedded within it.

On page 4 of the June 6, 2008 Clean Copy of the Specification, please replace the paragraph on lines 19-25 with the following amended paragraph:

The prior art system illustrated in Figures 3 also is a system according to MSDN Library (under the topic: Windows Driver Stack for Windows XP and LATER, http://msdn.microsoft.com/library/default.asp?url=/library/en-us/buses/hh/buses/usbsystem_60fb.asp). As can be seen in Figure 3 the base configuration model assumed by the core USB framework imposes a one-to-one association between an interface and a device function. System software is designed to the intent of the core specification and assumes one driver per function and one interface.